

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A stackable box, comprising:
 - a) a bottom panel having,
 - 5 i) top, bottom, left and right side edges, each edge having a notch formed therein, and
 - ii) at least one slot formed proximate to said left side edge and at least one slot formed proximate to said right side edge;
 - b) a first side and a second side, each side comprising,
 - 10 i) a first panel having top, bottom, left and right side edges, said bottom edge being foldably associated with one edge of said bottom panel, said bottom edge having a notch formed at each corner thereof,
 - ii) a second panel having
 - 15 a) top, bottom, left and right side edges, said bottom edge foldably associated with top edge of said first panel,
 - b) a notch formed in each of the left and right sides of said bottom edge,

- c) a notch formed in each of the left and right sides of
said top edge
- d) at least one tab extending from said top edge,
- c) a first end panel and a second end panel, each end panel
5 comprising,
 - i) a first panel foldably associated with one edge of said
bottom panel and having left and right edges, and top and
bottom edges, said top edge having a first tab portion
formed at one side of said top edge and a second tab portion
10 formed at the other side of said top edge, said first panel
also having
 - a) a first flap extending from said left edge, said first
flap having
 - (1) an upper edge having a notch therein
15 forming a tab portion,
 - (2) a lower edge having a notch formed therein.
 - b) a second flap extending from said right edge, said
second flap having
 - (1) an upper edge having a notch therein
20 forming a tab portion,

- (2) a lower edge having a notch formed therein.
- ii) a first end second panel foldably associated with one edge of said first end first panel, having left and right edges, top and bottom edges said bottom edge having a first tab portion formed at one side of said bottom edge and a second tab portion formed at the other side of said bottom edge, said first end first panel also having
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- a) a first flap extending from said left edge, said first flap having
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- (1) an upper edge having a notch therein,
- (2) a lower edge having a notch forming a tab portion.
- b) a second flap extending from said right edge, said second flap having
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- (1) an upper edge having a notch therein,
- (2) a lower edge having a notch forming a tab portion,
- iii) said first end first panel tab portions being foldably connected to said first end second panel tab portions and said first end first panel left flap tab portion being foldably
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connected to said first end second panel left flap tab portion
and said first end first panel right flap tab portion being
foldably connected to said first end second panel right flap
tab portion,

- 5 d) whereby said first end second panel is folded to meet said first end
second panel and said first end first and second panel left and right
flaps are folded inwardly so as to be generally perpendicular to said
first end second and first panels so as to form first end left and
right flap subassemblies, respectively, and said first side second
10 panel is folded over said left and right flap subassemblies such that
said at least one tab of said first side second panel is inserted in at
least one slot in said bottom panel,
- e) whereby said second end second panel is folded to meet said
second end second panel and said second end first and second
15 panel left and right flaps are folded inwardly so as to be generally
perpendicular to said second end second and first panels so as to
form second end left and right flap subassemblies, respectively,
and said second side second panel is folded over said left and right
flap subassemblies such that said at least one tab of said second
20 side second panel is inserted in at least one slot in said bottom
panel,

- f) whereby when said box is assembled each top corner has a right-angle stacking tab projecting upwardly therefrom and each bottom corner has a stacking opening formed therein, such that when at least two said boxes are stacked said stacking tabs fit within said stacking openings so that said boxes have restricted sideways movement with respect to one another.

2. The stackable box of Claim 1, wherein each end panel has an opening formed therein for inserting a user's hand or other object.
3. The stackable box of Claim 1, wherein said stacking tabs have notched or rounded corners.

4. A method of forming a stackable box from a single die cut blank of material, comprising:
- a) providing a sheet of said material, comprising:
- i) a bottom panel having
- 5 a) top, bottom, left and right side edges, each edge having a notch formed therein, and
- b) at least one slot formed proximate to said left side edge and at least one slot formed proximate to said right side edge;
- 10 ii) a first side and a second side, each side comprising,
- a) a first panel having top, bottom, left and right side edges, said bottom edge being foldably associated with one edge of said bottom panel, said bottom edge having a notch formed at each corner thereof,
- 15 b) a second panel having
- (1) top, bottom, left and right side edges, said bottom edge foldably associated with top edge of said first panel,
- (2) a notch formed in each of the left and right sides of said bottom edge,
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- (3) a notch formed in each of the left and right sides of said top edge
 - (4) at least one tab extending from said top edge,
- 5 iii) a first end panel and a second end panel, each end panel comprising,
- a) a first panel foldably associated with one edge of said bottom panel and having left and right edges, and top and bottom edges, said top edge having a first tab portion formed at one side of said top edge and a second tab portion formed at the other side of said top edge, said first panel also having
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- (1) a first flap extending from said left edge, said first flap having
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- (a) an upper edge having a notch therein forming a tab portion,
 - (b) a lower edge having a notch formed therein.
- (2) a second flap extending from said right edge, said second flap having
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- (a) an upper edge having a notch therein forming a tab portion,
 - (b) a lower edge having a notch formed therein.
- 5 b) a first end second panel foldably associated with one edge of said first end first panel, having left and right edges, top and bottom edges said bottom edge having a first tab portion formed at one side of said bottom edge and a second tab portion formed at the
10 other side of said bottom edge, said first end first panel also having
 - (1) a first flap extending from said left edge, said first flap having
 - (a) an upper edge having a notch therein,
 - 15 (b) a lower edge having a notch forming a tab portion.
 - (2) a second flap extending from said right edge, said second flap having
 - (a) an upper edge having a notch therein,

- (b) a lower edge having a notch forming a tab portion,
- c) said first end first panel tab portions being foldably connected to said first end second panel tab portions and said first end first panel left flap tab portion being foldably connected to said first end second panel left flap tab portion and said first end first panel right flap tab portion being foldably connected to said first end second panel right flap tab portion,
- iv) whereby said first end second panel is folded to meet said first end second panel and said first end first and second panel left and right flaps are folded inwardly so as to be generally perpendicular to said first end second and first panels so as to form first end left and right flap subassemblies, respectively, and said first side second panel is folded over said left and right flap subassemblies such that said at least one tab of said first side second panel is inserted in at least one slot in said bottom panel,
- v) whereby said second end second panel is folded to meet said second end second panel and said second end first and second panel left and right flaps are folded inwardly so as to be generally perpendicular to said second end second and

first panels so as to form second end left and right flap subassemblies, respectively, and said second side second panel is folded over said left and right flap subassemblies such that said at least one tab of said second side second panel is inserted in at least one slot in said bottom panel,

vi) whereby when said box is assembled each top corner has a right-angle stacking tab projecting upwardly therefrom and each bottom corner has a stacking opening formed therein, such that when at least two said boxes are stacked said stacking tabs fit within said stacking openings so that said boxes have restricted sideways movement with respect to one another;

b) folding said first end second panel to meet said first end first panel;

c) folding said first end first panel flaps and first end second panel flaps inward to be generally perpendicular to said first end first panel;

d) folding said second end second panel to meet said second end first panel;

e) folding said second end first panel flaps and second end second panel flaps inward to be generally perpendicular to said second end first panel;

- f) folding said first side second panel over said first end left flaps and
said second end left flaps and inserting said at least one first side
second panel tab in said at least one slot in said bottom panel;
- g) folding said second side second panel over said first end right flaps
and said second end right flaps and inserting said at least one
second side second panel tab in said at least one slot in said bottom
panel to form an open top box structure.
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5. The method of Claim 5, wherein at least two boxes formed thereby are
stacked one on top of the other by inserting said stacking openings of one
said box on said stacking tabs of another said box.
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